PRODUCT BULLETIN

Product(s):	Fabius GS
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Subject: APL Valve Redesign

Effective immediately, all new Fabius GS anesthesia systems will be shipped with a completely redesigned APL valve. For the installed units in the field, an upgrade kit is available under part # 4118184.

Please note: The Leak/Compliance test instructions on the Fabius GS (SW 1.3x) ask the operator to adjust the pressure on the APL valve to 50 cmH2O. Since 50 cmH2O is not an individually marked setting on the new APL valve, we will change the on-screen instructions in the next SW release to read 40-50 cmH2O.

Attached is a description of the new APL valve's functionality.

If you have any questions, please contact Jens Boy at ext. 2271, or at boyj@draegermed.com.

Operation of the new APL valve

The APL valve has two functions. It limits the maximum pressure during manual ventilation, and it exhausts excess gas into the scavenger system during manual / spontaneous ventilation.

The APL valve is connected to the patient airway through the ventilator. It functions only when the ventilator is in Man/Spont mode (or ventilator override condition).

The APL valve has a labeled knob for selecting between spontaneous and manual modes of ventilation and for indicating approximate pressure settings.

When the APL valve knob is rotated fully counterclockwise, pressure is released to allow for spontaneous breathing. The spontaneous breathing position eliminates resistance to patient exhalation, as well as the need to adjust pressure.

In manual mode, the APL valve knob can be rotated to change the pressure threshold at which the gas will flow through the valve and into the scavenging system. Clockwise rotation of the APL valve knob increases the pressure threshold, and counterclockwise rotation of the APL valve knob decreases the pressure threshold. Lifting the top of the APL valve knob will temporarily relieve pressure.

Note: The APL valve is automatically excluded from the breathing circuit whenever an automatic ventilation mode is selected.

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